

Appl. No. 09/650,075
Amdt. Dated March 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action Of 2/17/04

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of February 17, 2004, Applicants clarify that claims 1 - 53 were cancelled in an Amendment filed June 30, 2003.

The amendments and remarks as presented here are believed to place the case in condition for allowance. None of the amendments made herein constitutes the addition of new matter. Accordingly, entry of these amendments, reconsideration of all pending rejections and objections, and passage to allowance is respectfully requested. With this response, claims 54, 69 - 90 and 96 - 108 are pending herein.

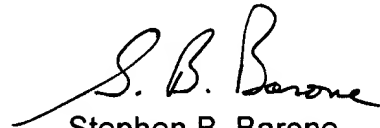
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this case is in condition for allowance, and passage to issuance is respectfully requested.

If there are any outstanding issues related to patentability, the Examiner is invited to call and arrange for an opportunity to discuss these issues via a phone interview.

It is believed that this response does not necessitate payment of additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 & 1.17. If this is incorrect, however, please deduct the appropriate fee for this submission and any extension of time required from Deposit Account No. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,


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